

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 00119 261621Z

42

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /031 W

----- 042093

Z 261608Z FEB 74

FM USINT DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 0111

SECSTATE ABOARD ACFT NR 86970

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 0119

E X D I S

PASS SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A) SY

SUBJECT: SECVISIT - SCHEDULE

1. I HAVE JUST MET WITH PROTOCOL OFFICER DALATI WHO TELLS ME THAT "FORMAL SCHEDULE" IS STILL NOT RPT NOT AVAILABLE. SECRETARY WILL BE MET BY FOREIGN MINISTER WHO WILL ESCORT HIM AND PARTY NAMED IN PRECEDENCE LIST TO GUEST HOUSE WHERE "INFORMAL" SUPPER HAS BEEN PREPARED. DALATI SAID THAT AFTER THAT, AS HAPPENED THE LAST TIME, SECRETARY WILL MORE THAN LIKELY BE TAKEN TO SEE PRESIDENT, BUT DALATI WAS NOT ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT SCHEDULE WILL BE "SIMPLE" INVOLVING PRIMARILY SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT IN TALKS EITHER TONIGHT OR TOMORROW.

2. MEANWHILE I ALSO RAISED MATTER OF POSSIBLE PRESS STATEMENT BY SECRETARY UPON ARRIVAL. WHILE SYRIANS HAVE NO OBJECTIONS, THEY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT SECURITY. IN VIEW OF THAT CONSIDERATION, I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT NO RPT NO ARRIVAL STATEMENT BE MADE UNLESS, OF COURSE, THE SECRETARY INTENDS TO MAKE SOME IMPORTANT SUBSTANTIVE ANNOUNCEMENT. OTHERWISE I BELIEVE THE SECRETARY AND HIS PARTY SHOULD LEAVE PROMPTLY FOR THE GUEST HOUSE IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE SECURITY AND ARRIVAL MECHANICS AT THE AIRPORT.

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RM I AM SORRY WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO GET ANY-
THING MORE DEFINITE ON SCHEDULE BUT AS INSTRUCTED,
I AM LEAVING THIS TO THE SYRIANS. IF THE PAST IS
ANY GUIDE, CHANCES ARE WE WILL NOT KNOW UNTIL
SECRETARY IS ACTUALLY HERE WHEN HE WILL BE MEETING
WITH ASAD.
SCOTES

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS ADDED PER STANDING INSTRUCTIONS FROM S/SO.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 26 FEB 1974
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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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